

# October

Be Sure to **LOOK** for those Buttons and  
roll-over effects

Magic Lantern Society **NEWS**

2010



## Fall and Halloween Slides



**A happy Halloween!**



Pumpkins in the Rogue River Valley, Oregon, Lantern slide  
Oregon State University Archives



Rogue River, Oregon

Fall images courtesy of Oregon State University Archives.



### The Best of OSU Archives

The OSU Archives has a large collection of lantern slides (many of which have been digitized during the last 15-18 months). Many of them are part of the Visual Instruction Department Lantern Slides (P 217). A guide for this collection is available online at:  
<http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/findaid/ark:/80444/xv71497>

*Check these out!*

**More Images  
of Halloween**  
*click for details*

**What's New with  
Group NW Activities**  
*click for details*

**Unusual Use of Slides**  
*click for details*

**As Seen on EBAY**  
*click for details*





## Illuminating Lake County, Illinois History

By Diana Dretske  
Lake County Discovery Museum  
in Wauconda, Illinois

Thursday, January 8, 2009

### Essanay Studios

One of the motion picture industries earliest studios, Essanay Studios, was co-founded by Waukegan man, George K. Spoor (1871-1953).

Spoor had co-managed the Phoenix Opera House in Waukegan, and from about 1895-1899 managed the business end of inventor Edward Amet's motion picture interests. In 1907, Spoor and cowboy actor/director "Bronco Billy" Anderson, opened Essanay Studios at 1333-45 W. Argyle Street in Chicago.

"Essanay" was the phonetic spelling of the founders' initials S & A, for Spoor and Anderson. The studio produced hundreds of films, featuring stars such as Francis X. Bushman, Beverly Bayne, Gloria Swanson, Charlie Chaplin and Max Linder. The Studio's "Indian" head logo, seen in the photo, was designed by Spoor's sister, Belle. The photo shows the Studio's entrance on Argyle and an unknown starlet.



To promote its productions, Essanay created colorized glass lantern slides. The 4" x 3 1/4" slides were projected onto screens at theaters between vaudeville acts and movies.

A collection of Essanay's lantern slides were donated to the Museum in 1964. They're a remarkable glimpse into early motion picture history, and the beginnings of American pop culture.

Francis X. Bushman (1883-1966) was one of Essanay's top stars. At the peak of his career, this matinee idol was described as the "Handsome man in the world."

The slide to the right is for the 1915 film, "Graustark," starring Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne. Directed by Fred E. Wright, it was one of Essanay's most popular movies.

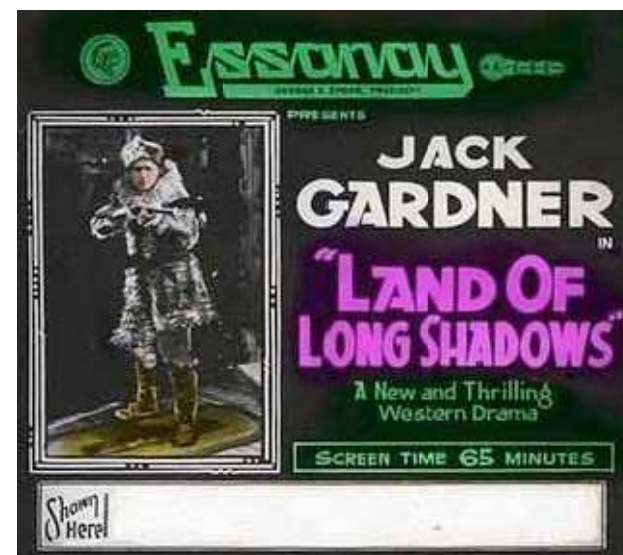


Bushman was often photographed in profile for publicity stills to accentuate his good looks. He is also remembered for his role on CBS radio's soap opera "Those We Love" which aired from 1938-1945.



Another colorful lantern slide is from the 1916 film, "Vultures of Society," directed by E.H. Calvert, and starring Lillian Drew and E.H. Calvert. Note the Essanay logo in this slide and others.

In 1917, W.S. Van Dyke directed "Land of Long Shadows," starring Jack Gardner and Ruth King.



*continued next page*

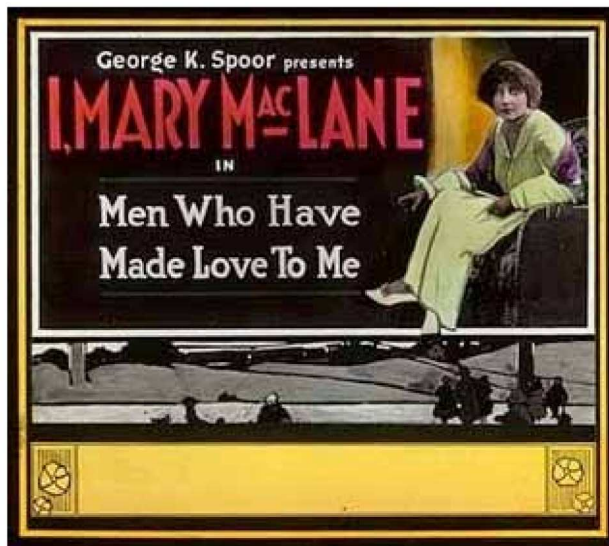




## More about Illuminating Lake County

There were several Jack Gardner film stars, so it is sometimes difficult to credit the correct one. This one is possibly the stage actor who was married to popular actress, Louise Dresser. The “mountain man” attire looks stereotypical, but is perfect for this silent-era western. I also love the braided rug at his feet. Braided rugs were a pioneer development and a necessity of frontier living, making it an authentic prop for this movie. It is interesting to note that braided rugs were popularized as home decor with the Arts & Crafts Movement of the 1880s to 1910s, and would’ve been a familiar household accessory at the time the movie was made.

One of the more curious productions by Essanay, produced between late 1917 and February 1918, was an autobiographical film written by and starring, Mary MacLane.



I was initially drawn to this slide by its Arts and Crafts motif with the hand drawn pastoral landscape and floral border. After scanning and enlarging the slide, my attention shifted to the surprising subject matter of the film,

“Men Who Have Made Love to Me.”

For her day, Mary MacLane (1881-1929) was a controversial, feminist writer, and was considered “wild and out of control.” The movie is now believed lost, so we can only wonder about its content though it was probably far less risqué than the title implies. A surviving cast list gives some insight with Mary MacLane as “Herself” and other character names such as: the callow youth, the bank clerk, the prize fighter, and the husband of another.

Essanay Studios relocated to California along with many other film studios around 1916, and went out of business about 1918.

*A Big Thank You to the following:*

Mark Butterworth	Ron Easterday
Yoriko Iwata	Jack Judson
Michael Lawlor	Rick Martyna
Joke Sebus	Bob Skell
Kentwood D. Wells	Gale Wollenberg

*for contributing to this months issue.*

**Now it's your turn to share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society? Something for the November issue?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**

## From Larry Cederblom's Halloween Slides

This is the story of Wilber the rat trainer Wilber has a favorite rat, Mort, that performs spectacular feats of jumping. The only problem is that Mort is a bit shy about performing. Wilber has found that the audience can help make Mort preform. With some encouragement with the phrase Jump Mort, jump. Mort in fact will do his jump. So with your help click on button and watch Mort jump through the hoop.

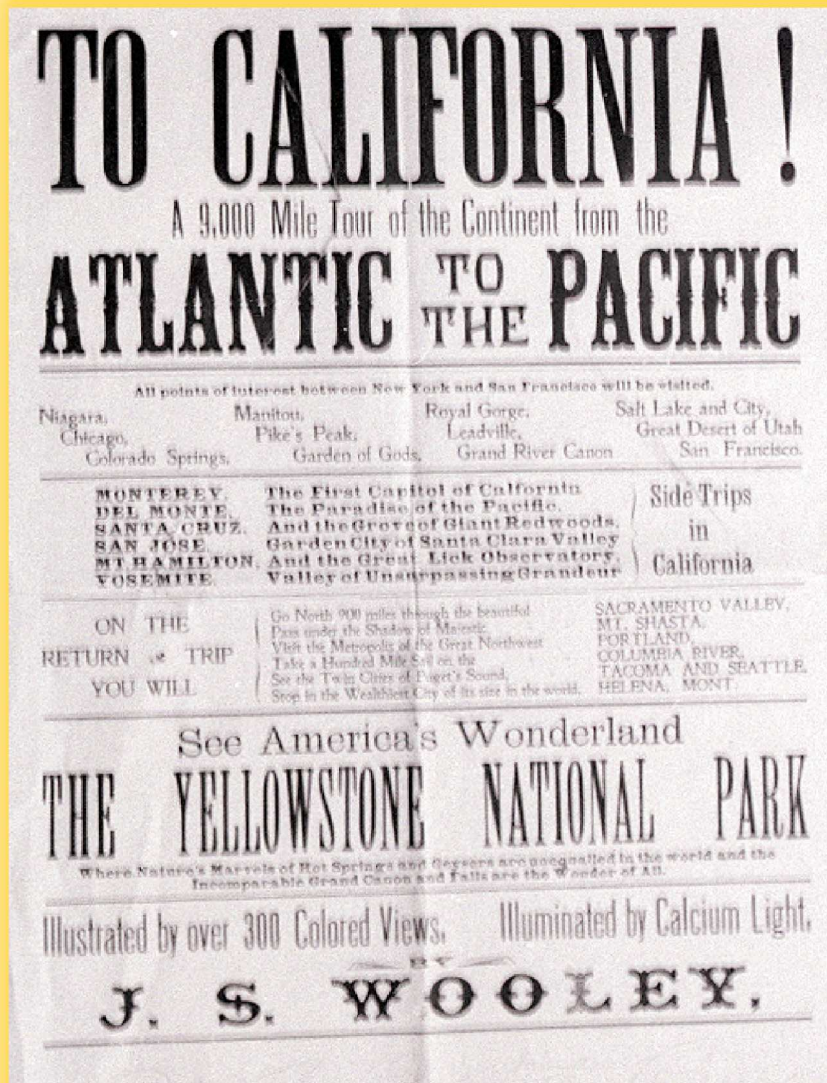
**Jump Mort, jump**



**Jump Mort, jump**







Poster for one of Wooley's lantern slide lectures.

## Jesse Sumner Wooley

Late in January of 1896, Jesse Sumner Wooley, a well-known photographer from Ballston Spa, New York, took passage to Florida on the S.S. Algonquin. Accompanied by his friends the Reverend G. G. Johnson and A. N. Wiley, the trio travelled to Florida to attend

the dedication of a Baptist church in St. Augustine. Equipped with a hand-held Eastman Kodak Bulls-Eye camera, Wooley used his trip to St. Augustine to create a stereopticon or lantern-slide lecture about Florida. Wooley subsequently returned to Florida in the 1920s and 1930s. The photographs and text which make up this web site are the result of both his trips in 1896 and three decades later.

Wooley's 1896 lantern slide lecture is remarkable for a number of reasons. To begin with, it provides an important historical record of Florida as it made the transition from a frontier region to a center of agriculture and tourism. In addition, it is one of the few professional lantern-slide/stereopticon lectures to survive intact with its narrative text and photographs.

For more on Wooley:  
[http://www.library.miami.edu/specialcollections/collections/wooley/J\\_\\_S\\_\\_Wooley/j\\_\\_s\\_\\_wooley.html](http://www.library.miami.edu/specialcollections/collections/wooley/J__S__Wooley/j__s__wooley.html)



**NOTE**

**Maybe I was wrong!**

I thought we were alive and well but maybe this is "Another dead technology"

I did not receive any additional information from the membership about shows or displays you have done or planned for 2010.

Thanks to David MacLean and Group NW for submitting information.





## UNUSUAL USE OF SLIDES

From: The Journal of American Culture Volume 28, Number 3 September 2005

**Persuading Sanity:  
Magic Lantern Images and the Nineteenth-Century Moral Treatment in America**  
Beth Haller and Robin Larsen

*a short passage from their article:*

Kirkbride's focus on how the magic lantern show rendered some patients more controllable illustrates Foucault's idea that guilt and moral responsibility were the madman's figurative chains, and how they were bound by moral responsibility to behave properly or they would not see the shows again. Kirkbride even inserts guilt into how much trouble the hospital took to offer the shows. Kirkbride also believed that he could use the images to alter patients' moods. In mentally engaging patients, the shows erased sadness and agitation, replacing them with cheerfulness and calm. As Kirkbride explained in 1847, the slidelecture exhibitions permitted education and amusement without excitation. He reiterated in 1861 that "much excitement or undue levity of behavior . . . is objectionable and hurtful in such an institution" (37). Seemingly inconsistently, Kirkbride strategically used images with a strong humor component. This too was a mood-altering strategy. Even if a show's subject matter was not amusing, Kirkbride ended many shows with a humorous image. He appeared to believe that even the most humorous slides would not induce detrimental levity, but promote just the right amount of "prudent mental employment" (1861, 20) to break up "the sad dulness [sic] and gloomy monotony too apt to reign in the evening" (1862, 25). See Figure 2 for a comic slide.

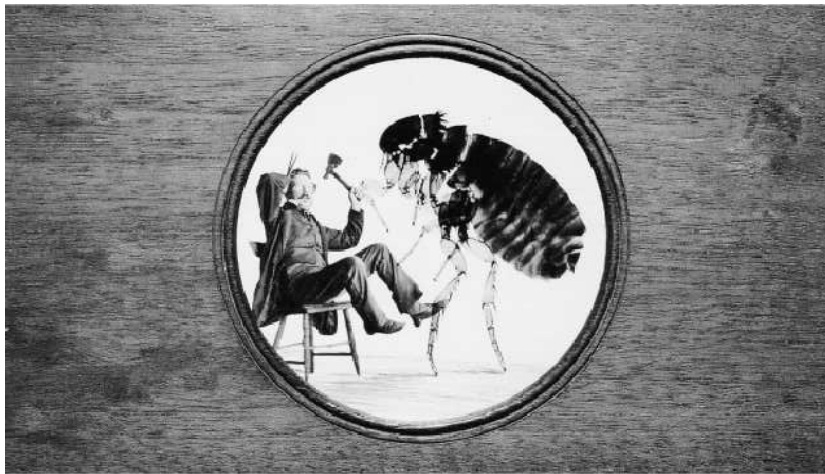


Figure 2.

Ending shows with a comic image was not a convention of the commercial photographic magic lantern shows. By contrast, commercial showmen ended with religious and moral messages in keeping with Victorian views that mass entertainments should be

uplifting. During 1857, thirty-five of the hospital's seventy-five slide show presentations ended with comic slides. These slides were tacked onto all kinds of presentations, from portraits of famous Americans to travel shows. By contrast, a week long calendar of shows at the Georama Hall in Philadelphia in 1870 shows that, whether of famous people, great paintings, or scenic locations, most ended with religious images like Raphael's Madonna and Child or Leonardo da Vinci's Holy Family.

For the complete PDF article go to:

[http://www.cmha.ca/data/1/rec\\_docs/964\\_persuading%20sanity.pdf](http://www.cmha.ca/data/1/rec_docs/964_persuading%20sanity.pdf)

## UNUSUAL SLIDE

From:

[http://physics.kenyon.edu/EarlyApparatus/Electrical\\_Measurements/Lecture\\_Table\\_Galvanometer/Lecture\\_Table\\_Galvanometer.html](http://physics.kenyon.edu/EarlyApparatus/Electrical_Measurements/Lecture_Table_Galvanometer/Lecture_Table_Galvanometer.html)

A galvanometer is a type of ammeter: an instrument for detecting and measuring electric current. It is an analog electromechanical transducer that produces a rotary deflection of some type of pointer in response to electric current flowing through its coil.

This projection galvanometer is, reasonably enough, in the Jack Judson Collection of the Magic Lantern Museum in San Antonio, Texas. The button on the left-hand side says that it came from the Tottenham Polytechnic in London.



## FOR SALE

From Michael Lawlor

Members might be interested in this Lapierre film projector for sale in Whiterock, BC, Canada. I have been to see it, and it is in Mint condition. I date it about 1914, and I think his film date is a bit early. I am guessing 1920's but??? I would like it but I am trying not to collect everything.

<http://vancouver.en.craigslist.ca/rds/clt/1926010636.html>



## Inquiry Response

### Follow-up to Mark Butterworth *Inquiry (See Sept E-pub)*

To: Mark Butterworth  
From: Jack Judson

Have reviewed 18 McAllister cats in our files here ranging from 1867 through 1913, found scant mention of St. Kilda, with no description of such slides, other than St. Kilda.

St. Kilda is always a one liner in large number of Scotland slides, which seem to range over Scotland as a whole, but on one or so occasion Scotland is broken up into Highlands, or Lowlands, but St. Kilda does not appear in such designations.

The few mentions as noted appear as follows:

Feb. 1890 Jan. 1894 Feb. 1897 1904? Dec. 1913

I hope this is of some assistance to you. Look forward to what the article will reveal.

Best, Jack

### "Mark Butterworth - An Apology

In the last e-newsletter a message appeared from me, requesting information about McAllister catalogues and the entries for slides of Scotland. The message also included a disparaging remark about Jack Judson. When I wrote the message I had no idea that the full text would appear in the e newsletter and I wish to apologise publicly to Jack for the insult and injury my remark might have caused.

The message was a personal email to another Society member and was never intended for public circulation. However, I did make the statement and know it was both incorrect and inappropriate. Not only did Jack quickly respond to my request for help but is he recognised around the world for his helpfulness and assistance whenever a request is received. Several members have written to me stating this since the e newsletter was published.

I wish to withdraw the remark without hesitation and again, apologise for having written it.

Mark Butterworth"



### From Bob Skell

Coleman 237 lanterns with an American Optical film strip and slide projector (left) and a Society for Visual Education Inc. slide and film strip projector (right).

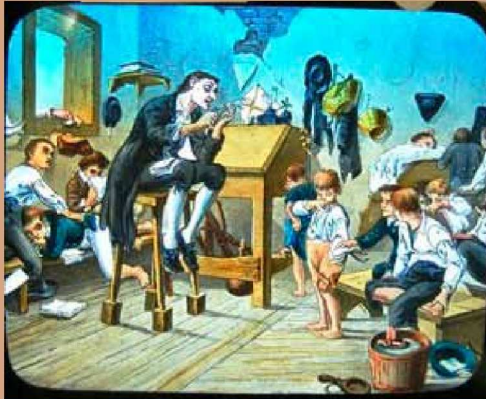
The potential markets were missionaries and rural communities that lacked electric power, according to a 1949 Coleman News.

These undated lanterns are in Dick Sellers', left, and Shirley Willard's, right, collections. The Charles Beseler Co. also made a similar projector for this lantern.

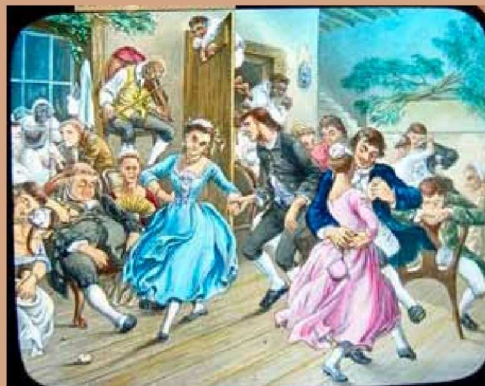




**Headless Horseman**  
The 6-slide set was manufactured by York...  
From: Rick Martyna



Ichabod Crane & his scholars



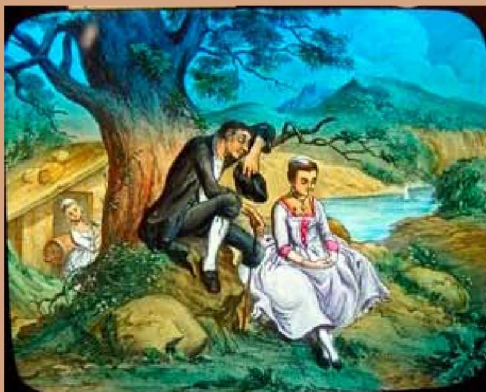
The Ball at Van Tassels



Ichabod relating wonderful stories



Ichabod meets the headless horseman



Ichabod and Katrina



The flight



**If your in the area in  
October  
please join us!**

**Group NW October Meeting**

**Noon Oct 24**

Michael Lawlors

Please bring salad or dessert for pot luck.

Remember those show and tells.

Please RSVP Michael Lawlor

mcfawlor@shaw.ca or 604 254-6322

450 Heatley Avenue,

Vancouver, BC V6A 3G5 Canada

If you need directions and a map email

Larry

**We will be working on the Group  
NW 2011 calendar.  
Meetings and events.**

Back to Page One





## More From the Members

### Australia's first film studio

The Salvation Army was certainly progressive and innovative in its early approach to spreading the Gospel; the Brass Band - the pop-music medium of the time - is a prime example.

However, it is in the area of multi-media presentations that The Salvation Army showed itself as most inventive.

**Birth of the Limelight Department**  
Captain Joseph Perry, whilst manager of the Ballarat Prison-Gate Home, set up his own photographic studio and dark room. He produced and used his own glass lantern-slides to emphasise his sermons and lectures.

Such was the impact of his lantern shows that in November 1891 he was brought to the Melbourne Headquarters by Major Frank Barritt to produce a set of lantern-slides to advertise the forthcoming visit of William Booth to Australia. Thus, led by Major Barritt and Captain Perry, the "Limelight Department" of The Salvation Army was born.



### From Joke Sebus

Joke Sebus sent this link, forwarded to him from a friend in Australia. It is a very interesting and informative site describing the use of lanterns by the Salvation Army in Australia. Least you think this does not sound very interesting, visit this site, follow the links, and read about "Soldiers of the Cross", which premiered to 2,000 people in Melbourne, September 13, 1900. Ultimately this production used 3,000 feet of film, 200 lantern slides, and 50 live actors.

This site links to the Australian Broadcast Corporation, which has a wealth of information on the [Limelight Department](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/action/NOTE_MPLATE?s=0%2CpURL%3Daustalias-f-rst-f-lm-studio%2C) and early filmmaking. There is information on lanterns, slide production, limelight techniques, film and editing, all well explained in detail. It has informative commentary on topics such as how many buckets of water had to be carried from the creek to supply the limelight gas generator?

[http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/action/NOTE\\_MPLATE?s=0%2CpURL%3Daustalias-f-rst-f-lm-studio%2C](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/action/NOTE_MPLATE?s=0%2CpURL%3Daustalias-f-rst-f-lm-studio%2C)



University of  
Connecticut

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

HOME ABOUT CLAS ACADEMIC THEMES ALUMNI STUDENT RESOURCES INTRANET GIVING

This story appeared on the webpage of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Connecticut in September 2010.

For the complete story and slide show:

([http://clas.uconn.edu/news/news\\_2010\\_09\\_10.htm](http://clas.uconn.edu/news/news_2010_09_10.htm)).

### Biology professor's hobby illuminates 19th century entertainment

By Corrina Balash Kerr

Long before the advent of DVD players in minivans and TV-enabled smartphones, there were magic lanterns.

Kentwood Wells, professor and head of ecology and evolutionary biology in CLAS, owns many of these 19th-century image projectors and is an expert on these mystical-sounding devices.



### From Gale Wollenberg

I just visited the Colonial Williamsburg website.

<http://www.history.org/Foundation/journal/Autumn06/optics.cfm>

There is one of the photographs of a "typical" colonial family gathering displaying a magic lantern. I think someone besides myself should instruct them that a candle lit or whale lamp lit lantern of that period did not look like the one depicted nor would anyone hold one at such an angle to project with. Besides that the projected picture is too large for the type of magic lantern being used.

Best regards,  
Gale Wollenberg



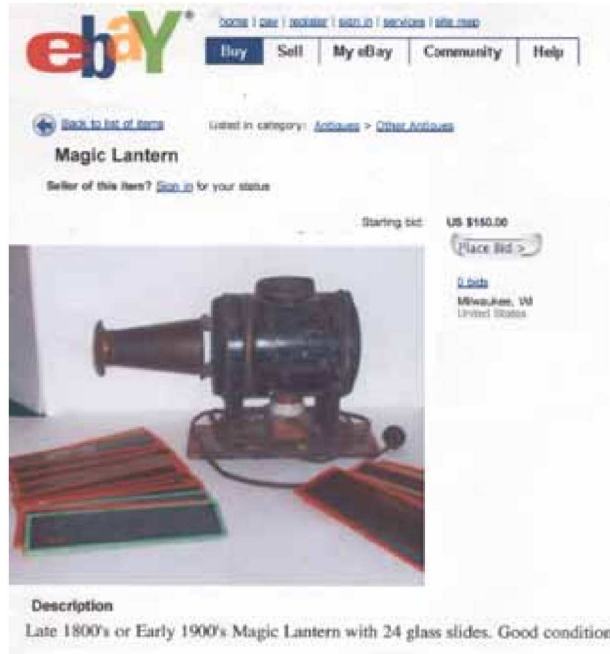


As Seen On



Watching magic lantern items on eBay can be very interesting and entertaining.

Please note the unusual placement of lens and chimney also the extreme light source of the one lantern.



*This item is as they say is Very Rare*



It looks like we still have some work to do to educate about the lantern.

Must be one of those that you hold up to your eye?

Might get a bit hot with light source!





## Last Artisans - Minwa-za Troupe DVD Available to MLS Members

This show was shown July 23, 2010 on the NHK Broadcast channel, as mentioned in the email forwarded from Yoriko Iwata this last July. This is an interview-style professional production highlighting the Minwa-za Troupe and its founder, Mr. Fumio Yamagata. It is not a complete magic lantern show from start to finish, but features wonderful close-ups both in front and behind the screen, including the complex mechanical slides. Member Machiko Kusahara is featured near the beginning with some of her European lantern collection as the similarities and differences between European and Japanese lanterns and shows are discussed. The feature explains how the art of Edo utsushi-e was the beginning of Japanese animation that combines hand-held wood lanterns with mechanical slides - true "real time animation." Mr. Yamagata, after 20 years of research, has brought back this art form that had been lost to Japanese culture and is keeping it alive through live shows and his use of interactive, hands-on children's activities.



For those of you that were fortunate enough to see The Minwa-za Troupe show at the DC Convention in 2008, this will bring back fond memories. If you missed that show, this is a great introduction into a unique art form that combines magic lantern, music, and theater.

Yoriko Iwata tells us that the Minwa-za Troupe hopes to perform in Chicago during the Spring of 2011. We will provide details as they develop.

*Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Yamagata, with the assistance of MLS member Yoriko Iwata, the Society has been given a copy of the presentation "Last Artisans".*

This DVD is available for members to borrow on a short term basis, through our Society lending library, for the cost of postage. Please contact Ron Easterday at [secretary-treasurer@magiclansociety.org](mailto:secretary-treasurer@magiclansociety.org). This DVD may not be used for commercial purposes and is not to be copied.

Format: DVD  
Length: 30 Minutes  
Language: English





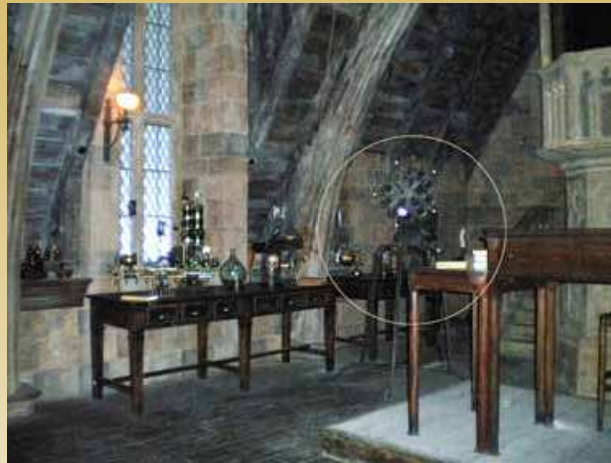
## Professor Snape's Magic Lantern

### From Kentwood D. Wells

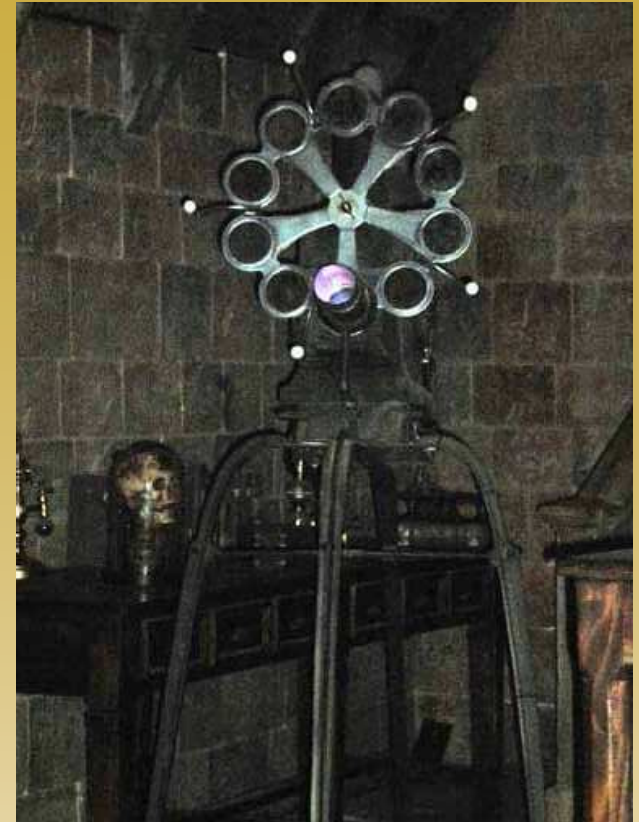
Those of you who have seen the movie *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* undoubtedly remember the scene in which Professor Snape uses a magic lantern in a lecture on the characteristics of werewolves. The lantern in the movie is modeled after the famous Pettibone "peacock" lantern, which was equipped with a large wheel of slides and was used almost exclusively in Knights of Pythias lodge halls. In Professor Snape's lecture, the images are of old engravings of werewolves, and he rotates the slide wheel by pointing his magic wand at the lantern. This summer, our family visited the new Harry Potter theme park at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida. As we spent several hours winding our way through a replica of Hogwarts School in a very long and slow-moving line, we came to a dimly-lit room full of scientific instruments, including Professor Snape's magic lantern, which was projecting an image on the wall. It was a nice surprise to see this magic lantern, especially after spending about two hours in line to get to that point in the tour.



Reconstruction of Hogwarts Castle at the Harry Potter themepark in Orlando, Florida. Photo by Kentwood D. Wells



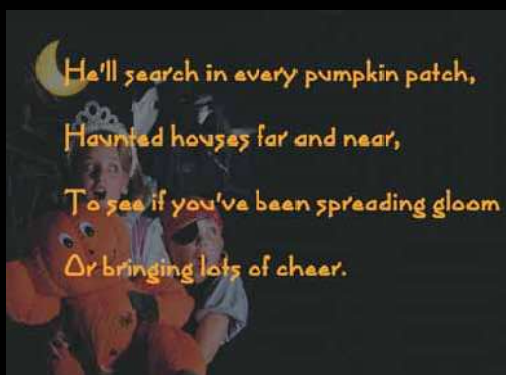
Classroom full of scientific instruments, including Professor Snape's magic lantern, in Hogwarts Castle. Photo by Camila Wells.



Professor Snape's magic lantern, modelled after the Pettibone "peacock" lantern used in Knights of Pythias lodge halls. Photo by Camila Wells.







Slides from  
Larry Cederblom's  
Halloween Show.  
Slides are decal slides  
for a Halloween sing  
along.

magic lantern  
chromatope

